

201 South Villa Place
Boise, Idaho 83712

November 22, 2013.

Attention: Federal Lands Interim Committee
C/O Legislative Services Office
Research and Legislation
P.O. Box 83270
Boise, Idaho 83720-0054

Senators Chuck Winder and Lawrence Denney

Subject: Comments – HCR 21 State Management, Control, and Ownership of Public Lands held by the Federal Government

Dear Sirs:

I write on the subject of HCR-21. The subject line, above, says much to illustrate my concerns about the proposal currently under study. The concept of "State Ownership" of what are now Federal Lands held in trust for the American People is most bothersome to me. Open lands currently managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, US Army Corps of Engineers, etc. are public lands and are not "owned" by the Federal Government.

The concepts of best-and-highest use and multiple use I fear would be lost under state ownership. Income would be maximized over all else under the state constitution. Commodity extraction would prevail over other uses in many landscapes across Idaho – to the detriment of clean water, clean air, human and ecosystem health, public recreation, and the visual resource.

This is a bad idea that does not serve the public interest. It certainly would not serve my personal interests that are not based on personal, economic gain as a citizen of Idaho and the United States of America.

Sincerely,


Roy Heberger